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American

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A Monthly Journal devoted to the interests of Stamp Collectors.

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Incomplete T Collecting.

TE find in European philatelic journals the signs of a growing tendency among philatelists, more especially among our English cousins to limit the scope of their collecting. The tendency is even more mark-

ed among philatelists than among generalists. For many years specialists have not, as a rule, collected envelopes, wrappers and postal cards, but have confined their attention to adhesive stamps, now, many of them appear to be desirous of placing further restrictions upon their chosen fields, - they are seeking excuses to abandon the collecting of official, newspaper and postage due stamps They are willing-nay, anxious - to fill pages with a few stamps on the plea of shades, pairs, blocks, imprints, fine copies, etc., etc., but, at the same time, they are not willing to give space to stamps, which many consider to be equally interesting and desirable and which are certainly issued under the same authority and serve equally to pay postal charges.

Official stamps, so far as our knowledge goes, are always paid for either directly or by being debited to the department using them and credited to the Post Office Department. Such stamps are as essential for the franking of letters as ordinary postage stamps for the letters of the general public. most countries the newspaper stamps are affixed to papers in transit through In our own country we had for many years, a series of stamps which was retained in the Post Office; but, unless thes: stamps were purchased, attached to the blank and cancelled, the package would not be transported by the Post Office Department. The stamps franked the package, though they did not actually accompany it on its journey

Postage due stamps represent the postage on letters exactly as do ordinary postage stamps. They represent the fee paid to the Government for transporting mail matter, and the fact that this fee is paid by the recipient of the letter, instead of the sender, does not alter the character of the service nor make the stamp anything but a postal one. The two varieties of stamps indicate payment in advance for a service and payment on delivery, but the service is identical. It cannot be denied that each represents postage paid by someone Why should they not, then, have a place in collections of postage stamps?

It has been urged against those official stamps which are made by surcharging stamps with "Official", "O S", etc. that the surcharge does not alter the essential nature of the stamp but merely restricts its use, and that we should be content with the unsurcharged stamp The overprint "British

East Africa" limits the use of the stamps bearing it to that State; the overprint "Official" limits the use of the stamps to certain departments. Each is essential within its own sphere. Carrier stamps likewise, are only used in certain cities, but we have not heard that this makes them uncollectable. If we are to decline the surcharged official stamp, because we already have in our collections its unsurcharged brother shall we also refuse the early stamps of Zululand because we have the British stamps from which they were created? Even if we refuse the surcharged official stamps, what are we to do with those which have the word "Official" engraved in the design and with those of special designs which are not employed for stamps intended for

the use of the general public?

Lastly, we come to the subject of stamps perforated by initials, etc, to indicate their restriction to official use. These are condemned off-hand by many of our English contemporaries as being in the same class with stamps perforated by the initials of firms and, therefore, entirely unworthy of consideration. We confess that we do not quite follow this argument. Firms used their initials in this way to prevent theft of the stamps; firms have also printed their names on the faces of stamps and their advertisements on the backs. But we do not, for these reasons, cease to collect surcharged stamps. The perforating of the initials "O. S." in a stamp is not designed to prevent theft, but to indicate that it is intended for a specific use. We have not heard of any collectors of Luxemburg refusing to take the stamps perforated "Officiel", and those who collect Tunis usually want the stamps perforated with a large "T", which serve as postage due stamps. Why not, then, collect the stamps perforated "O.S." for Victoria and "O. S.—N S. W." for New South Wales?

It seems to us that collectors who throw out the several classes of stamps which we have been discussing do so to the detriment of their collections, which are thus left incomplete, unfinished and lacking some of the historical and instructive features which are supposed to be part of philately.— J. N. L.



Notes Upon Stamps and their Varieties.*

By GEO. L. TOPPAN.

[Continued from page 338.]

Argentine Republic.

1862.



Fig. 91.



Fig. 92.

5c. Type I.—The top of the "5" is slightly curved; the "c" of "CENTAVOS" is rather narrow and the lines in the upper part of the shield are straight (Fig. 91).

5c. Type II.—The "5" is smaller; the "c" of "CENTAVOS" is more open and the lines in the shield are curved. Both the 10c. and 15c. are of type II. (Fig. 92).

1888.



Fig. 93.



Fig. 94.

5c. Type I.—The face is heavily shaded and the collar does not show upon the right side (Fig. 93).

5c Type II — The face is much less heavily shaded; the point of the collar shows plainly at the right and the lozenges forming the groundwork are larger and more distinct than in type I, (Fig. 94).

1888.



Fig. os



Fig. 96.

and the serif is slanting. The ground of the central oval is composed of horizontal lines crossed by diagonal ones, this is particularly noticeable on the left side just above the shoulder and at the top of the head.

The words "UN CENTAVO" measure a scant ten mm. in length. (Fig 95).

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1c.—The left half of the tops of the numerals in the upper corners slants downwards and its continuation forms the upper line of the serif, the bottom line of which is at right angles with the upright stroke. The numerals, are, also, a trifle larger than in the 1883 stamp.

The ground of the central oval is composed entirely of horizontal lines and they, as well as the lines forming the groundwork of the rest of the stamp, appear to have been recut and are much heavier than in the earlier stamp. The words "UN CENTAVO" measure a full 10½ mm (Fig. 96).

Austria.

1850.



Fig. 97.

Two well-known varieties are to be found in this series (Fig. 97). The first, which is to be found on all values, consists of the word "STEMPFL" instead of "STEMPFL" in the upper right corner of the stamps. This error is due, not to defective printing as are so many of its kind, but to the breaking of a letter in the wax mould while the plates were being made

The second variety is found only in the stamp of the value of 9kr. and consists of an inverted "6" having been used instead of a "9". It is easily recognized by the lower part of the "9" being below the level of the word "KREUZER". This is caused by the shoulder of the type which, in an inverted "6", is below instead of above as in a "9".



Fig. o8.



Fig. 99.

1867. 5kr.—The inner end of the foliate ornament at either side of the value, ends abruptly at the ball. (Fig 98).

1873. 5kr — The end of the foliate ornament is prolonged and curves around the inner portion of the ball. (Fig. 99).

NEWSPAPER STAMS.

1851-56.



Fig. 100.

Type I .- The "G" of 'ZEITUNGS" has a cross bar. The 1kr, 6kr.

and 30kr are found in this type. (Fig. 100).

Type II.—The "G" of "ZEITUNGS" has no cross bar. The 1kr. and okr. are found in this type.

1867-1889



Type I .- The upper part and the brim of the petasus are shaded with dotted lines; the outer circle of the medallion does not touch the upper label. Type III -The upper part and the brim of the petasus are shaded with

solid lines. (Fig 101).

Type III .- The upper part and the brim of the petasus are shaded with solid lines, and the outer circle of the medallion touches the upper label.

NEWSPAPER TAX STAMPS.





Fig. 103.

1850. 1kr and 2kr.-The cross on the top of the crown touches the inner frame; the shield is small and the vertical bar in the center contains five lines (Fig. 102).

1878. 1kr. and 2kr. - The cross on the top of the crown does not touch the inner frame; the shield is larger and the vertical bar in the center con-

tains seven lines. (Fig. 103).

Lombardy-Venice.

1850.



5c.—"K. F." instead of "K. K." in upper left corner.

15c. Type I.—The "5" is on a level with the "1". (Fig. 104).

15c. Type II.—The "5" is a trifle sideways and above the level of the "1".

45c. Type I.—The lower portion of the numerals ('45") is below the level of the word "CENTES".

45c. Type II.—The lower portion of the "45" is on a level with the lower part of "CENTES".





Fig. 105



Fig. 106

Two varieties, common to all the values of this series, are known, as follows:

Type I.—The loops of the bow of ribbon at the back of the head are broken. (Fig. 105).

Type II.—The loops of the bow of ribbon at the back of the head are intact. (Fig. 106).

NEWSPAPER TAX STAMPS.

1858.



Fig. 107.

There are two types of these stamps which may be easily distinguished, as follows:

Type I.—The banderol of the left eagle touches the beak of the eagle.

Type II.—The bandrol does not touch the eagle's beak. (Fig. 107).

In the originals the 1kr and 4kr are type I, while the 2kr is type II. In the reprints all the values are type II.

Azores

1863-70.



Ei~ 100

5r. Type I.—The "5" at the right is 1 mm. from the end of the label.

5r. Type II —The "5" at the right is 1½ mm. from the end of the label.

1875.



Fig. 109.



Fig. 110.

15r. Type I.-The numerals "1" and "5", at the right end of the

upper label, are close together (Fig. 109).

15r Type II.—The numerals "1" and "5", at the right end of the upper label, are properly spaced. (Fig. 110).

1883-85.



Fig. III



Fig. 112.

20r. Type I.—The figures "2" and "0" are some distance apart and are close to the ends of the labels (Fig. 111).
201 Type II.—The figures "2" and "0" are closer together and

further from the ends of the labels (Fig. 112).

Bavaria.

1849.



Fig. 113.



Fig. 114.

6kr. Type I -The circle enclosing the numeral of value is unbroken and does not cut into the frame lines of any of the labels (Fig 113).

6kr. Type II - The circle enclosing the numeral of value cuts into the frame-lines of the labels upon all four sides, the same as in the 3kr. value. This type is commonly known as the "broken circle." (Fig. 114).

Belgium

NEWSPAPER STANPS.

1381-91.



The following varieties, due to imperfect transfers, may be found in these stamps:

```
ic. green, "BELGIGUE" instead of "BELGIQUE"
           "CENTIVE"
                          " CENTIME
 TC.
      " "CENTIME"
                            86
                                   " "CENTIME"
 IC.
      " CENTIME" omitted.
aC.
     " no period after " CENTIME"
" DEIGIOUE" instead of "BELGIQUE"
IC.
1c. olive, "BELGIGUE"
1c. "BELGIOUE"
                           " " BELGIQUE"
ac. gray, "BELGIGUE" "BELGIQUE" "BELGIQUE" "BELGIQUE"
AC. " DELGIQUE
                           " CENTIME
2c. blue, "CENTIME"
5c. buff, "CENTIME"
                           " "CENTIMES"
2c. blue, "CENTIME" " "CENTIMES"

5c. green "BEIGIQUE" " "BELGIQUE"

8c. lilac, "CENTIME" " "CENTIMES"
```

1893.

In the 2c., violet brown, and the 5c values of this series a variety is cound in which the first "j" of "POSTERJJEN" is inverted.

Bergedorf.

1861.



Fig. 116.

4 % sch.—Of this stamp a variety exists in which the value is spelled schullinge" instead of "schilling". (Fig. 116).

Bolivia.

1867.



Fig. 117.

5c.—The plate of this denomination (Fig. 117) contains 72 stamps, arranged in six horizontal rows of twelve, all differing from one another. It has been retouched five times, thus giving us six types, which may be discinguished as follows:—

The main feature of the design is an eagle, standing upon a globe the ground of which is composed of curved lines. These lines curve downwards, are constant in all varieties, and in addition to them, there are, at the right, short vertical lines and diagonal lines and horizontal counter lines. The presence or absence of these lines, and their combination, are the distinguishing characteristics of the various types

Type I. - This consists of the vertical and diagonal lines in combination

with the curved lines of the globe.

Type II - Here only the diagonal lines are found.

Type III .- In this type the diagonal and horizontal lines are present and, also, faint traces of the vertical lines are to be found.

Type IV. - Only the diagonal and horizontal lines are to be found.

Type V .- The horizontal lines only are present.

Type VI - There are, in this type, no lines other than the curved lines of the globe.

The stamps printed in lilac are to be found only in types V and VI.

In addition to the six types there are several easily recognized varieties, five of which, at least deserve attention.

I .- The " A" in both "CONTRATOS" and "CENTAVOS" has no cross bar.

2.—The "A" in "CENTAVOS" has no cross bar.
3.—The "A" in CONTRATOS" has no cross bar.

4.—The "A" in "BOLIVIA" and "CENTAVOS" has no cross-bar.
5.—The "A" in "BOLIVIA" has no cross-bar.

Bosnia.

1879-91.



There are two types each of the 2, 5, 10 and 15 novcica, as follows:

Type I.—The "2" has a curved tail. Type II.—The "2" has a straight tail. 211.

2n. Type I.—The flag of the "5" is long and thin.
Type II.—The flag of the "5" is short and thick.
Type I.—The "1" has a slanting serif.
Type II.—The "1" has no serif.

5n. Ton

son.

Type I .- The "I" has a slanting serif. 15n.

Type II.-The serif of the " r " is almost horizontal, 15n.

Brazil,

1881.

- 50r - The head is small; the bust is quite rounded in front; the shading of the face and forehead is composed entirely of dotted lines; the eye is



Fig. 119.

merely a colorless dot showing no pupil; the lower line of the bust is decidedly curved and the hair is so arranged as to form a decided V upon the forehead, the parting being very clear and distinct. (Fig. 119).

1885.

5or.—The head is much larger than in the 1881 issue. The bust is pointed in front; the shading of the face and forehead is composed of dots and dashes; the eye is better drawn and shows the pupil clearly; the lower line of the bust is almost straight and the hair, while showing the parting clearly, leaves much less of a V upon the forehead.

1881.



Fig. 120



Fig. 121

roor.—The head is rather small. The ground of the central portion is composed of crossed, diagonal lines; the row of pearls which forms the inner frame of the central circle is not broken by the frame of the tablet containing the numerals of value; and the forward end of the bust is quite round. (Fig. 120).

1882.

toor.—Type I.—The head is larger than in the stamp of 1881, as is, also the circle containing it. The ground of the central circle is composed of crossed diagonal lines in combination with horizontal ones. The row of pearls forming the inner frame of the central circle is cut almost through by the tablets containing the numerals of value; and the bust is quite pointed in front. (Fig. 121)

roor.—Type II —This is a variety of the last and is easily distinguished by the ground of the central circle, which is composed of crossed, diagona

lines in combination with vertical ones.



Fig. 122.



Fig. 122



Fig. 124.

2001.—The head is small and the shading, especially upon the forehead and cheek, is very light. (Fig. 122).

1882.

2007. Type I.—The head is larger than in stamp of 1881 and the shading is much heavier. The ground of the central tablet is formed of diagonal and horizontal lines (Fig. 123).

and horizontal lines (Fig. 123).

2007. Type II.—Here, again, the shading of the head is light but the variety is easily distinguished by the ground of the central tablet, which is composed of diagonal lines only. (Fig. 124).





Fig. 125.

100r.—There are three types of this stamp (Fig. 125), which may be distinguished by the groundwork.

Type I — The ground is solid.

Type II.—The ground is composed of horizontal lines.

Type III.—The ground is composed of crossed lines.

1800.



Fig. 126.

are equi-distant from the colorless lines which enclose them. The letters of the word "CORREIO" are well formed and perfect. (Fig. 126).

the word "CORREIO" are well formed and perfect. (Fig. 126).

1001. Type II. (Re-engraved) — The pearl just above the "s' of "REIS" is so far above the others that it touches the inner, colorless band The upper serif of the "I" in "CORREIO" is very much too large, especially on the left side, and the lower part of the "o" of the same word is broken.

1894.



Fig. 127.

100r.—There is a hair line extending from the lock upon the forehead to the eyebrow; a plain lock of hair near the ear, which shows marked shading; a long neck and the leaves of the laurel wreath are properly shaded. (Fig. 127).

1897.

100r.—This stamp is a variety of the last, the head having been reengraved. The hair line is absent; the lock is broader and shorter; the ear is not shaded; the neck is short and the laurel leaves are lighter

1900.

toor. Type I.—This was printed from the same plate as the last and differs from it only in being printed in one color instead of two. The central oval is usually more on one side or the other, so that the thick, colored line surrounding the oval is covered by the parallel lines of the background.

100r. Type II —The parallel lines of the background do not touch the colored, surrounding line, but end at the colorless, horse shoe shaped line.



Fig. 128



Fig. 129

20cr. Type I.—There is one hair which extends from the lock upon the forehead to the eyebrow; all of the laurel leaves are but partly shaded; the lower part of the neck is not touched by the hair; the parallel lines of the background fill the oval completely, and the central oval is surrounded by a broad heavy line. (Fig. 128).

by a broad heavy line. (Fig. 128).

2007. Type II.—There is no hair from the lock on the forehead to the eyebrow. The shading upon the laurel leaves is much more even; the lower part of the neck has more or less hair. The background of the spandrels above "REIS" is composed of vertical and horizontal lines and the central oval is surrounded by a thin, sharp line. (Fig. 129).

.801



Fig. 130.

300r.—The letters of "CORREIO" are equi-distant and slant to the right. The ornaments in the upper corners are rather indistinct; the letters of "ESTADOS UNIDOS DO BRAZIL" are 1½ mm. high. At the bottom of the stamp, below "REIS", is a row of pearls, then a row of short, thin, vertical

lines, and finally, a row of heavier, vertical lines representing the beveled edge of the background panel. Only a small piece of the stem of the spray of laurel leaves can be seen between the leaves and the bases of the leaves are usually lost in shadow. (Fig. 130).

1000

300r. (Re-engraved).—There is a space between the first "0" and the first "R" of "CORREIO"; the "C" is upright and the first "0" is nearly so. In "REIS" the "E" is too wide and has the strokes too thick while the "1" and 's "are too thin; the ornaments in the upper corners are rather more white and distinct; the letters of "ESTADOS UNIDOS DO BRAZIL" are 134 mm. high and, below the word 'REIS", the vertical shade lines in the upper row are much broken, often entirely missing. The entire outline of each of the laurel leaves can be seen and the stem is strongly defined and extends below the lower pair of leaves.

1894-1900.



Fig. 131.

500r.—The differences between these two stamps, (Fig. 131), one of which is the re-engraved copy of the other are, practically, already described for the 300r. of the corresponding series; the two stamps being almost identical in design excepting, of course for the values.



Our Indian Letter.

By E. W. WETHERELL.

In one of my previous letters I called attention to the issues of the Con-

vention States of India and I wish to return to the subject.

The compilers of catalogues persistently ignore the comparative rarity of the stamps and appear to price them without any method whatever. Gwalior is, perhaps, the most glaring example of absurd pricing. The 12 annas of 1885 with short Hindi inscription is listed at 16 sh—yet less than 1000 of these stamps ever existed. Another absurdity is the 6 annas with short surcharge, of which less than 3800 were ever issued, yet this stamp is priced at 1sh 6p. Again the 2 and 3 rupees are priced at 5sh and 7sh 6p respectively, but they are of exactly equal rarity—only 2496 of each having been printed

Chamba is also very badly priced; only 672 of each of the 2, 3 and 5 rupee stamps were issued – they are, therefore, of equal rarity, and face value is of no importance in such cases, yet the prices are 12sh 6p, 15sh and 3osh

respectively.

The 2 rupee stamp is, therefore, a dead bargain at \$3. In a recent sale by the Calcutta Philatelic Society this set fetched only £2.—someone had a bargain.

These prices rule low in consequence of the unpopularity of the issues outside of India—an unpopularity due to ignorance of the stamps among the great majority of collectors, and to the fearsome list of errors and varieties which follow the regular list in the catalogues. If collectors will only take the main differences of the regular issues and quietly ignore the small "A", the faulty alignments and the broken letters, they will have laid up for themselves at the present cheap prices a series of stamps which are of unusual interest and which will most assuredly rise in value when more is generally known about them.

Ignorance on the subject of the other class of Native Indian stamps—those stamps which are usually the product of native art and native workman-ship—is more excusable, for few philatelists can ever hope to rival Major Evans and Mr. D. P. Masson in their knowledge of those stamps usually known as "Smudges".

Several collectors of my acquaintance have in their albums a page which they call the ladies' page. On this they mount unused specimens of Nicaragua, Salvador, Liberia and B. N. B. (this last usually refers to a British possession in the East Indies but may also be applied to its issues (Bunkum, Nota Bene.) This system might well be followed up by a page of nightmares, on which watercolor Kashmirs, Kishengarh's, Bundis, Bamras, Bhors, Bhopals, Busahirs and Duttias jostle one another. Included on this page would be the ugliest stamp ever produced, namely the 2 annas, 1899 issue, of Kishengarh.

Speaking of Kishengarh: it is curious that the inscription on these stamps reads "Revenue and Postage", the only instance, I think, of the reversal of the usual "Postage and Revenue".

Our native dealers here include in their ranks a choice assortment of forgers—I do not mean by this statement that the majority are not quite honest—but there are a few who ought to be "doing time". Major Godfrey has again warned collectors in India against some more dangerous forgeries

of Poonch stamps.

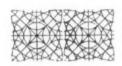
The Major advises collectors to take these stamps only on the original, to this the Editor of the P. J. I. adds "and even then great care must be exercised"—this reminds me of the advice given by a celebrated philatelist at home to a beginner "when you see a Scinde stamp firstly be sure it is on the original, then make certain that it is genuine, and then do not buy it on any account"

If I were asked what is the most noteworthy fact in connection with philately during the last year or so I should unhesitatingly say—the increase in the study of fiscals. During my visit home I attended a meeting of the Fiscal Philatelic Society, of London, at which the fiscals of India were compared and listed. In this country great interest is taken in the revenue stamps of India and Ceylon; new varieties are constantly cropping up and Messrs. Crofton and Crosse are writing regularly on the subject to the *Philatelic Journal of India*. These stamps promise to become as popular in the East as the revenues of the United States and Canada have long been in the West.

One of the most interesting discoveries has just been made by Mr. D. P. Masson: that authority on Kabul and Kashmir has found that there are several distinct types of the 6 pies of the Sirmoor 1885 88 issue.

Sirmoor bye-the bye, opens up a good field for research. The Official stamps being very imperfectly known and the history of the reprints of the

first issue is unique.



Our English Letter.

BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL.

London, 10, October, 1903.

We have quite a novelty in auction catalogues this season. Some years ago, just before the trouble came to a head in the Transvaal, our friend Kruger was having a new series of postage stamps prepared for issue, some of which were to be adorned with his own charming phiz. The dies were engraved, and even the paper was ordered and made. It was watermarked with the initials "Z. A. R" But when the war broke out the new stamp idea took a back seat, and has never re appeared. The watermarked paper was left on the hands of the manufacturers an English firm. That paper is now being used for printing Mr. W. Hadlow's auction catalogues Alas how are the mighty fallen! Those who specialise in Transvaals may like to have a specimen sheet Mr. Hadlow is selling them at one shilling each. Or the economically minded may get the Hadlow catalogue and add the fly leaf order form to their collection. It shows the watermark very well

Some collectors prefer quantity to quality. Such collectors can have their fill now-a-days At a recent auction a lot of 57.coo stamps, in packets of 1000, sold for 13s; that is, less than 3d per thousand and as they were all continentals I don't expect there were any surcharges in the lot; they must, therefore, have been a very valuable parcel

Of course, surcharged rubbish can be had cheaply also. 50 sets of nine stamps of the North Borneo Protectorate sold for 18s. Terribly dear at any price!

Masekings are apparently still on the downgrade. Last season sets went down to £19, and once or twice they dropped to a pound or two less. But this season they have already started at £9126 for the set of nineteen stamps in fine condition. I should not like to speculate an opinion when they will touch bottom. It may not be yet. The Great Prophet said they would probably drop considerably, and then rise to their real value. That's a bit vague, but any way the first part of the prophecy is being fairly well sulfilled. They were to setch £100 per complete set. They are somewhat below that mark at present and those who put money into them for speculative purposes must be in a bit of a quandary over the trend of prices. Still, there's eternity in front for the rise, so there's no need to lose hope altogether.

Gibbons promises to have the British Colonial portion of his new catalogue ready in November. He says there are to be "very considerable improvements" in the get up. and, of course, a thorough revision of prices It is the general opinion that a lot of medium colonials are considerably

underpriced and that these must show a rise as they cannot be bought for stock to sell at the catalogue prices.

LONDON, 17, October, 1903.

Our Auctioneers have this season been changing their places for holding their auctions. Messrs. Ventom, Bull and Cooper have moved from the luxurious Hotel Cecil to the Temple Hotel, which they advertise as "most centrally and conveniently situated, within a few doors of the Philatelic Society's rooms". The Temple Hotel is, in fact, in the same street. But unfortunately for the arrangement, the Society will probably change its meeting place this season, indeed, I am expecting daily to hear of the change from our old rooms to some hotel. At the end of last season it was pretty generally agreed to give up the expensive Effingham House room in favor of a small office and a meeting place at some hotel centrally situated.

The programme of the London Philatelic Society is published in full in the September number of the London Philatelist; a much more convenient arrangement than the old hand-to mouth business of arranging the meetings in happy-go-lucky fashion as the dates came around, and yet, when I mooted the plan, I was assured that such an arrangement would never work in our Society.

The programme includes an opening display of the stamps of the United States with notes, by the Earl of Crawford. His Lordship has a very fine collection of the States, including some grand première gravure copies.

Then, at the second meeting, we are to have a display by H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, our President of proofs, essays and stamps illustrating the postal issues of the United Kingdom during the present reign, with notes compiled from official sources. That meeting may be reckoned upon to be a record for attendance, for we all know the Prince can show grand things in English proofs and essays. H. R. H. will scarcely be present in person. His multitudious engagements will no doubt preclude us from having that pleasure, but he is quite enthusiastic enough to give up an evening to philately if he has it to spare.

And we are to wind up, as we were to have wound up last season, with a paper and display of the stamps of Sicily by Mr. Wickham Jones. Mr. Jones did not read his paper last season because he did not wish to forstall Dr. Dienna's forthcoming book on Sicily, for they have been exchanging notes. I had the pleasure of turning over the pages of Mr. Wickham Jones' special collection of Sicily last year and I can promise collectors an eye opener in specialising when they attend that display. They probably think a little, one-series country like Sicily too restricted for the specialist, but those who have not taken up the country have a deal to learn as to its possibilities. Years ago I more than once, in these letters to the A. J. P., recommended the

country to my fellow collectors. And now that specialists have, as I anticipated, taken it up and the remainders are all but exhausted the stamps must pass from the long maintained cheap rates into higher prices.

LONDON, 24, October, 1903.

A good deal of attention in a quiet way has lately been called to Express Delivery stamps. You have on your side an elaborate Special Delivery label. It is collected as a postage stamp, and it is, of course, catalogued and illustrated. Other countries have Special Delivery or Express Delivery stamps, and they, too, are chronicled and catalogued and collected, but I have never heard of any one dreaming even of collecting or cataloguing our English label for Express Delivery of letters and parcels by post. It is not, it is true, a thing of beauty when placed alongside your own Special Delivery stamp But I should like to know where the difference lies in the claims to catalogue rank.

Again, if "officials" are collectable and entitled to catalogue rank, why are the official "paid" stamps omitted? I refer to the dated postmarks with the word "Paid" and the amount ½d. or 1d. added thereto. They may be regarded as only envelope stamps, but they are as much an acknowlegement of postage paid as an adhesive stamp. Still, I never heard anybody collecting them or dreaming of adding them to our bulky catalogues. I do not hold a brief for their inclusion, on the contrary, I would omit all their kind, or, what is better, relegate them to a separate catalogue.

But, apart from any question of catalogue rank, it has often struck me that our dated postmark "paid" stamps are full of interest and variety Most towns seem to have their own variety of the circular stamp. In some the figures are small, in others they are large. In some the word "Paid" is in bold letters across the centre, in others it is in a curve at the bottom. I suppose some day some enthusiast will start booming these labels, and then we shall wonder why they were ever neglected. They are plentiful enough, for whenever a large firm sends out a few thousand circulars it pays the postage in bulk and the post office officials stamp on each packet the amount paid and the date of posting. And there are many varieties even in each town but the date on each stamp tells its own history of each change of type.



There are also some labelled "Official paid". I enclose you one of the elatter for reproduction as a curiosity, since it is an official paid stamp. If all official stamps were of a similar character some of our friends would not have gotten into such trouble as they have recently.

Major Evans is our stamp-humorist, but who would have suspected such a vein of sarcasm as is revealed in the following reply of his to a correspondent in the current number of the Monthly Journal, "F. W. H.—For the proper study of the stamps of Great Britain you should have a copy of the London Society's History of the Adhesive Stamps of the British Isles. We cannot give a summary of that work in this column" Delightful! Those who have seen the ponderous volume will appreciate the difficulty of the summary and the amazement of the tyro when, having acted upon the Major's advice, he commences its study.

London, 31, October, 1903.

The London Philatelic Society met for its first meeting, after all, in its old quarters at Effingham House, and we had a bumper attendance: 23 all told. We have had larger attendances but it was a good meeting for an opening one of a season All the familiar faces were there. The Earl of Crawford occupied the chair. On his left was Mr Tilleard in his accustomed place with his batch of Secretarial matter, on the right was Mr. Bacon. Mr. Castle, Mr Oldfield, Mr Ehrenbach, Mr. Hausberg, Mr. Maycock, in fact all the old stagers crowded around the table.

The table was littered with the Earl's albums. As soon as the formal business was gone through and three new members elected, his lordship made a few preliminary remarks introductory to the display of his collection of the stamps of the United States. He explained that the collection included essays, proofs in various stages, trial proofs in color, and final proofs in the selected color. The collection, he informed us had been arranged on the basis of Mr. Luff's work, which he very warmly commended as the finest piece of philatelic work that has been done by any writer.

Then we fell to examining the volumes There were some 23 in all, but his lordship tells me that the whole collection comprises forty volumes. Just think of it forty large quarto volumes, with pages measuring 91/2 inches by 11 inches, and all one country, filled with stamps in the pink of condition, and almost every page with notes in his lordship's small neat writing, in fact every page was surrounded with the history of the stamps which it bore sample of philatelic industry the volumes were a marvel in themselves. Some of us who take a pride in the study and arrangement of our specialised col lections were compelled to confess that our Vice President can give most of us points as a patient laborer. The secret of it all is that he can get clear away for months at a time from the many calls which his high social position would make upon him if he remained in England, and away on the high seas. in his beautiful yacht, with no one to bother him about this function or that, he can work undisturbed. Who would not be an enthusiastic philatelist under such ideal circumstances? Why! most of us in the lower stratum of philatelic life would undertake to collect all the countries of the sun and the moon, in addition to the common varieties of this little circumscribed planet of our own, given such surroundings.

But what are the wealthy collectors of the great Republic doing that they allow an English collector to walk off with the grandest show on earth of United States stamps—His lordship has bought up several collections, the principal ones being Mr. Stanley Castle's and Mr. Mandel's Mr. Mandel, who was connected with the American Bank Note Co, had enriched his collection with proofs and essays in profusion and these now have passed into the Crawford collection. In future, when American specialists want to study the stamps of their own country, they will have to run over to this little island.*

United States Stamps of the Twentieth Century.

MUNHALL, PA., October 31, 1903.

EDITOR AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY:

Having divided my stamp collection between the stamps of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, it became desirable to me to distinguish the various marked shades of the U. S. stamps to determine which belonged to this century. I therefore wrote to the Director of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing requesting information on the following points:

FIRST.—What plates were used for the regular U. S. Adhesives (not including the present issue nor the Pan Americans), after January 1, 1901, for the following values: 3c, 4c, 6c, 8c, 10c, 15c, 50c and Special Delivery?

Second.—What were the numbers of the above plates which were *first* used after January 1, 1901 (i. e., which must surely be 20th century prints)?

THIRD.—What were the lowest numbered plates used after January 1, 1901, for the following values, as it would manifestly be too much to ask for all the numbers in the long list of plates for these values, viz: 1c, 2c and 5c?

As many collectors are commencing with the 20th century and will doubtless wish to include the distinct 20th century shades of this issue, I believe that the information contained in the letter of the Director will be of much value to them, especially should they have preserved their stamps with plate numbers attached. I therefore enclose herewith his very full reply.

Incidentally this will show one benefit of preserving plate numbers. Personally, I collect my U. S. stamps in blocks of six, with plate numbers attached, as it gives a very nice appearance to the page and the blocks show the widely different shades well. Without these plate numbers I would, of course, have been unable to identify the 20th century shades, which matter now becomes easy.

It will be noted that for the 6c, 15c and 5oc there were no new plates used in this century. As I understood the dollar values had but one plate each I did not include them in the inquiry.

For the 1c, 2c and 5c where the plates were changed so frequently it can be safely assumed that any plates higher than those given are 20th century printings. Very cordially,

W. C. EATON, Commander U. S. Navy

^{*}So long as Mr. Luff's collection remains on this side of the water we shall have to differ with our correspondent upon this point.—G. L. T

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
BUREAU OF ENGRAVING AND PRINTING,
October 29, 1903.

COMMANDER W. C. EATON, U. S. N.,

MUNHALL, PA.

SIR: - I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 24th inst.,

and in reply to your several questions beg to say :

The numbers of the plates used in printing the following adhesive postage stamps of the regular issue (not including the present new issue nor the Pan Americans), after January 1, 1901, were:

3 cent. 91, 95, 103, 107, 254, 447, 448, 449, 450, 1213, 1214, 1215 and

1216.

4 cent. 790, 791, 792, 793, 1100, 1101, 1102, 1103, 1332, 1333, 1334 and

6 cent. 922, 923, 924 and 925.

8 cent. 928, 929, 930, 931, 1094, 1095, 1096 and 1097.

10 cent. 256, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1336, 1337, 1338 and 1339.

15 cent. 264.

50 cent 75.

10 cent Special Delivery. 880, 881, 88, 883, 1257, 1258, 1259 and 1260.

Of the above, the following plates were used for the first time after January 1, 1921:

3 cent. 1213, 1214, 1215 and 1216.

4 cent. 1100, 1101, 1102, 1103, 1332, 1333, 1334 and 1335.

8 cent. 1094, 1095, 1096 and 1097.

10 cent 1336, 1337, 1338 and 1339 10 cent Special Delivery. 1257, 1258, 1259 and 1260.

The lowest numbered plates used after January 1, 1901, for the following

values were :

2 cent. 1079.

5 cent. 1084.

Respectfully,

THOS. SULLIVAN,

Acting Director.





UNITED STATES.—We illustrate the new two cent stamp described in the October number.



0 0 0 0 0

Corea.—The following is a copy of the official order relative to the new series of postage stamps:

NOTICE.

"The Imperial Korean Post Office has the honor to inform the public that on and after the 1st, October, the Department of Communications will issue a new set of Postage Stamps.

The stamps of 5, 10, 25 and 50 poon will be completely withdrawn from sale but mail matter prepaid by them will be allowed to circulate until the 31st, December.

The new set of stamps will comprise the following values: 2 Rin, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 15, 20, 50 cheun and 1 and 2 wun."

0 0 0 0 0

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.—We have been told of the existence of an imperforate sheet of the current 20c, official stamp,

0 0 0 0 0

FRENCH OFFICES IN CHINA.—Hoi-Hao.—L'Echo de la Timbrologie says: "We have to announce to-day an error of the surcharges for this office. I wo sheets of the 5c. green have received the surcharge interverted, that is to-say, Hoi Hao above the value in Chinese characters."

0 0 0 0 0

ITALY -Mr. Wm. Thorne has shown us the current 5 centesimo stamp in an imperforate pair.

0 0 0 0 0

NEW CALEDONIA.—We are in receipt of a set of stamps bearing a surcharge commemorative of the fiftieth anniversary of the French sovereignity over this country. As they are good only for internal postage they should be relegated to the class of local stamps.

The surcharge consists of the words "CINQUANTENAIRE—24 SEPTEMBRE," in an almost circular form, with the dates "1853-1903" in the lower corners and, above all is an ornithological specimen (which we are told is the "Cagou", indigenous to the islands) with outstretched wings, perched upon a pedestal which cuts through the word "CINQUANTENAIRE" between the second "N" and the "r". The whole series of stamps, from 1c. to 1fr., inclusive of the 10c. black on lavender with two colors of surcharge and both of the 5c. stamps, have been so ornamented and, in addition, the 2c, has been altered to 1c.; the 4c. to 2c; both 5c. stamps to 4c.; the 15c. gray to 10c; the 20c. to 15c. and the 25c. black on rose to 20c. by an additional surcharge in the centre of the other.

0 0 0 0 0

New Hebrides —We are in receipt of four values of a new series of local stamps for use here—I'hey are of two designs; one being an horizontal rectangle showing, in the centre, a view of "Franceville" which is surrounded by a somewhat ornate frame consisting of labels, palm trees and native inhabitants in rather undress uniform. The other is an upright rectangle of large size showing, as a center piece, some tropical vegetation with a native in the foreground—The most striking feature of the frame is a large, boar's head in each of the upper corners

The stamps of 5c and 25c are of the first type while those of 15c and 1fr are of the second. All are bi-colored, as follows: 5c frame blue, centre green; 15c. frame orange brown, centre black; 25c. frame carmine, centre black; 1fr. frame yellow green centre indigo. The inscriptions are "NOUVELLES HEBRIDES - 1903—POSTE LOCALE—SYNDICAT FRANCAIS." And plainly indicate the true character of the stamps which, together with the two already catalogued, should be included only in a catalogue of local, and not postage, stamps.

6 5 5 5 5

NICARAGUA.—Mr. Albert Calman has shown us a block of eight of the 5p official stamp, series of 1892, perforated all around but imperforate horizontally between the two rows.

0 0 0 0 0

SALVADOR.—Mr. A. Calman has shown us the 15c orange postage due stamp, issue of 1899, in a vertical pair without perforation between.

0 0 0 0 0

SOMALI COAST.—The 2 francs stamp in the new colors, green and black, exists without the names of the designer and engraver at the bottom. We have been shown a copy by Mr, Wm. Thorne,





BRITISH GUIANA.—Stanley Gibbon's Monthly Journal announces a new value of the current type.

Adhesive stamp

Watermarked Crown and C. A. Perforated 14.

6oc gray green and carmine

BRITISH SOMALILAND. — The London Philatelist chronicles the following Indian stamps of the King's head type overprinted for use in this colony:

Adhesive stamps.

Watermarked star.

Perforated 14 Black surcharge.

1a carmine

2a violet

3a brown orange

4a olive green 8a red violet

Official stamps.

1/2 a green 1a carmine

2a violet

8a red violet

COLUMBIAN REPUBLIC. — Antioquia. —We quote from Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal: "We have received two new stamps from this province; a 5cc with large numerals in the center, and a 1 peso with portrait of a gentleman labelled 'ZEA'. Both are of large narrow shape, and are inscribed '1903 COLOMBIA DEPARTMENTO DE ANTIOQUIA' with value in words at foot.

Adhesive stamps.
Perforated 12

50c rose 1p sepia Barranquilla Issue.—We have received the following new varieties.

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated 12.

5c bistre

50c rose 5p pale brown

10p claret

Bolivar.—The following new varieties have lately came to hand:

Adhesive stamps.

Imperforate.

5p carmine rose on salmon

5p " " bluish

10p purple on greenish blue

COREA.-We are indebted to Mr C. A. Howes for our first specimens of the new series, the design of which he describes as follows: "The bird represented is the 'Violet falcon'. falconry being a sport of the nobility as it has been in China. On his breast is the symbol of 'Yang and Yin', the Chinese representation of the dual forces of nature which, acting together, produce all things; this is surrounded by the 'Pa-Kua or Eight Diagrams'. On each wing are four more small 'Yin-yangs' while the right claw holds a sheathed sword, with its belt, and the left a terrestrial sphere on which Corea and Japan can be discerned

Beneath the falcon is a plum-blossom, the imperial flower The legends are now in French instead of English, which changes the 're' to 'ri', and the \$ sign has been adopted for the 'wen'. Several of our contemporaries note an error of the

recently surcharged set

Adhesire stamps Perforated 111/2. Black surcharge. 3ch on 25p maroon Regular Issue.



Perforated 131/2x14. 2ri slate

I cheun, violet brown

green

orange 3

rose

4 vellow brown 5

64 6 lilac

61 blue 10

red on straw 15

violet brown on straw 20

6. red on green 50

wen, violet on lavender " violet on orange

COSTA RICA. - Le Timbrophile Belge chronicles a new value of the new series and l'Echo de la Timbro logie adds three official stamps. We have, also, received a series of Postage Due stamps. The design of the latter consists of a large figure, in black, on a groundwork of engine turning inscribed "CORREOS DE COS-TA RICA-CENTIMOS-MULTA" We also illustrate the stamps chronicled last month.

Adhesive stamp.







Perforated. 25c blue violet and brown (Eusebio Figuero) Offic.al stamps. Perforated Blue surcharge. 4c red violet and black 6c bistre and black 25c blue violet and black Postage Due stamps.



Perforated. 5c Prussian blue and black icc orange brown and black 16c yellow green and black 20c carmine and black 25c ultramarine and black 30c brown and black 40c olive bistre and black 50c red violet and black

EAST AFRICA AND UGANDA PROTECTORATES .- Ewen's Weekly Stamp News has seen a "Specimen set of the entire new series, of which only the 1/2a, 2a, 1R and 2R values have as yet been regularly issued.

Adhesive stamps. Watermarked Crown and C. A. Perforated 14.

ra carmine and gray black 2 1/2 a ultramarine

3a gray green and brown

4a black and gray green 5a yellow brown and gray black 8a pale milky blue and gray black

Watermarked Crown and C. C.

or green and gray green

2r violet and lilac

3r black and gray green

4r pale emerald green and gray black 5r carmine and gray black

10r ultramarine and gray black

2cr stone gray

5cr red brown

EGYPT .- Soudan .- Ew n's Weekly Stamp News notes a new provisional. Achesive stamp.

Watermarked a Flower.

Perforated.

Black surcharge (?)

6m on spi green and orange brown

FRENCH OFFICES IN CHINA .-

Long-Tcheou.-La Cote Reéle lists a series of stamps for this town. They are the current stamps of Indo-China surcharged with name and Chinese characters.

Adhesive stamts

Perforated 14x131/2.

Black surcharge, ic black on lilac blue

2c brown on buff

4c claret on lavender

5c yellow green

1cc red

15c gray on gray

25c blue

5fr red lilac on lavender

HONDURAS.-Mr. F. F. Sharpless writes us as follows:

"I beg to call your attention to a new regulation regarding postage

stamps in Honduras

As you probably know, stamps are not sold in that country at the post offices, but by an agent of the Government in another office, where he also sells the revenue stamps and the blanks on which it is necessary to write telegrams

For some reason, I was unable to learn what, another Government official, having nothing to do with the

P. O. Dep't., must examine the postage stamps and mark them before they can be sold by the official whose business it is to dispose of them. The mark that is put upon them is the word 'PERMITASE', meaning

'it is permitted to use '.

You will notice this as 'PAR' upon the enclosed icc stamp and ITASE' upon the 5c. I examined a number of sheets of stamps in Amapala, Honduras, recently and was unable to purchase any without this mark. It so happened that in the office there were several sheets of 5cc stamps without the mark, but the authorities would not sell them.

The mark is invariably on two adjoining stamps but, being placed there by hand, it is very irregularly

The surcharge, which is evidently the work of a rubber stamp, is in large sans-serif capitals and is probably applied to all values, though at present, we list only what we know to exist.

Aahesive stamps. Perforated 12. Purple surcharge.

5c blue

Rose surcharge.

10c brown

(?) surcharge. 50c vermilion

HUNGARY .- Le Collectionneur de Timbres Poste chronicles a set of postage due stamps as follows:

Postage Due stamps.

Perforated. of green and black

2f 6.6 5f 6f 66 66

10f 66 66 12f 66 66 2cf

66 . 6 5cf 46 ık

ICELAND .- We have a long list of

new varieties of the stamps with the "I GILDI" surcharge to report this month, most of which have been brought to our attention by Mr. William Thorne.

Adhesive stamps.

Perf. 121/2.

Black surcharge

5a yellow green (error)

20a dull blue (error)

Varieties: "I" omitted.

5a yellow green (error)

Inverted Surcharge.

6a gray red surcharge

4a rose and gray, black surcharge

10a carmine, black surcharge

16a brown, black surcharge Double Surcharge.

6a gray red surcharge

Double Surcharge, one inverted.

16a carmine, black surcharge Surcharged '03-03.

6a gray, red surcharge

20a dull blue, red surcharge 4a rose and gray, black surcharge

Perf. 14x13½. Red surcharge.

6a gray

2ca dull blue Black surcharge.

3a yellow (type I)

Toa carmine

16a brown

50a blue and carmine

Varieties :

Inverted Surcharge

50a blue and carmine, black surchge

Surcharged '03 - 03.
50c brown and violet, black surchge
"I" omitted.

oca brown and violet black surchge Official stamps.

Varieties:

Inverted Surcharge

Perf. 121/2.

Perf. 14x13½.

5a brown, black surcharge 16a carmine, black surcharge

20a yellow green, black surcharge

INDIA.-Mr. Wm. Thorne has

shown us the following new values of the King's head series.

Adhesive stamps.

Watermarked Star.

Perforated 14.

12a brown on red

ir carmine and green

2r vellow brown and carmine

Official stamps.

Black surcharge. "On H. M. S."

3P gray

ir carmine and green

Gwalior.—The London Philatelist chronicles the two annas, Queen's head, in violet.

Adhesive stamp.

Watermarked Star.

Perforated 14.

Black surcharge

2a violet (Queen's head)

Jhind.—The Philatelic fournal of India notes the issue of the following King's head stamps overprinted for use here:

Adhesive stamps.

Watermarked Star,

Perforated 14.

Black surcharge.

3p gray

1/2 a green

1a carmine

2a violet

3a brown orange

4a olive green

8a red violet

Official stamps.

2a violet

4a olive green

8a red violet

Nabha.—Le Timbrophile Belge announces five new values surcharged, upon the Indian King's head series, for use in this state.

Adhesive stamps. Watermarked Star. Perforated 14.

Black surcharge.

4a olive green 6a bistre

8a red violet

12a brown on red

ir carmine and green

Patiala .- The Philatelic Journal of India announces the appearance of the following official stamps surcharged upon the regular King's head series of India :-

Official stamps. Watermarked Star. Perforated 14 Black surcharge. la carmine

3a brown-orange

8a red violet

INDO-CHINA .- Mr. C. Witt has shown us a new provisional stamp for this colony It is made by surcharging the current 25c stamp with " 15" in figures 5 mm. high.

Adhesive stamp. Perforated 14x131/2.

Surcharged in black 15

15c on 25c blue

ITALY .- Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal announces the appearance of a new Postage Due stamp.

Postage Due stamp. Perforated 21 blue and magenta

MALTA .- " Specimen " copies of the 4d of the King's head series have been seen.

Adhesive stamp. Watermark Crown and C. A. Perforated 14. 4d light chocolate and black

NICARAGUA .- Mr. Albert Calman has shown us some new surcharges from this country. The 30 green of the 1900 series and the 100 violet of the 1902 issue have been surcharged with new values in the same type as those already chronicled (our numbers 164-166) and, in addition, with the word "OFICIAL", in large, Roman capitals, in the centre, the word measuring 22 1/2 x4 mm. In those values which we have seen the central ornament of fancy border type is found in three varieties in the ic on icc; one variety in the 4c on 10c and not at all in the 2c on 3c or the 5c on 3c. The usual errors. are found.

The 20c official stamp of 1900 has, also, been overprinted in a similar type, "10 Ctvs" or "30 Ctvs." at the bottom and numerals in each upper corner.

Official stamps.

Perforated. Black surcharge.

ic on loc violet

2c on 3c green

4c on 10c violet

5c on 3c green 10c on 20c bistre brown

30c on 20c bistre brown "Centovo".

ic on ioc violet

" Contavo " ic on ioc violet

"Centovos".

2c on 3c green 4c on 10c violet

5c on 3c green "Contavos".

2c on 3c green

4c on 10c violet

5c on 3c green Ornaments in centre.

ic on roc violet

4c on 1cc violet

PANAMA. - The separation of this State from the parent country has already been signalized by the appearance of a set of stamps series of 1892-94 (map) have been overprinted with a rubber handstamp "REPUBLICA DE—PANAMA" in two lines. The same treatment has been accorded to the Too late stamps of 1902, our type TL2.

Adhesive stamps,
Perforated 12.
Rose surcharge.
1c green
5c blue
1oc orange
2oc violet
Blue surcharge.
2c rose

Too Late stamp.
Imperforate.
Rose surcharge.
5c purple on rose

Offices in the Turkish Empire.— Mr. Wm. Thorne has shown us several new stamps for these offices which are made, as usual, by surcharging the current Russian stamps with new values. All are on vertically laid paper and it will be observed that several of them have not been chronicled without surcharge.

Adhesive stamps.
Vertically laid paper.
Perforated 14½.
Blue surcharge.
2pi on 20k blue and rose
Black surcharge.
7pi on 7ck brown and orange

Red surcharge.

5pi on 50k blue and green

SOMALI COAST.—Ewen's Weekly Stamp News chronicles the following new shades and colors of the current set:—

Adhesive stamps.
Perforated.
4c salmon and black
75c buff ""
5fr. vermilion and black

SWEDEN.—The London Philatelist lists a new value, of large size and commemorative species, bearing a picture of the new post office building at Stockholm. We have seen, also, a new value with the head of the king; our type A10.

Adhesive stamps.
Perforated.
8ö red violet
5kr gray and lilac

TUNIS.—Mr. C. Witt has shown us two new Postage Due stamps of the same design as the current series:

Postage Due stamps. 2fr. red on green 5fr. black on yellow



The American Collectors Company.

The Annual meeting of the stockholders was held upon November 17th and resulted in the election of the following gentlemen as Directors for the ensuing year:

A. W. Batchelder; H. L. Calman; E. M. Carpenter; E. H. Fallows; A. Holland; W. Knight; J. N. Luff; Jos. S. Rich; Sam. R. Simmons Jr.; Geo. L. Toppan and A. C. Wall

At the meeting of the Directors, held Nov. 19th, the following officers

were elected:

President, E. M. Carpenter; 1st. Vice-President, John N Luff; 2nd. Vice-President, Alex. Holland; Treasurer, Jos. S. Rich; Secretary, Geo. L. Toppan.

The Collectors Club.

351 FOURTH AVENUE,

NEW YORK.

The one hundredth meeting of the Board of Governors was held at the club-house on Monday evening, November 9, 1903.

Present: Messrs. Andreini, Bruner, Dewing, Luff, Morgenthau, Rich,

Scott and Perrin.

The meeting was called to order at 8.20 P. M., with the President in the chair

The minutes of the two previous meetings were read and approved.

A number of communications were read by the Secretary.

The Treasurer's report, showing a cash balance in bank of \$477.11, was approved as read.

The President transferred to the Secretary the incorporation papers of

the club and also the bond of the Treasurer

The President and Secretary were appointed a committee to approve the bond of the new Treasurer

The report of the House Committee was read and received

Moved by Mr. Luff seconded by Mr. Bruner and carried that the cost of medals of the club to those desiring to offer them as prizes be fixed at \$6 each for bronze, \$12 each for silver, and \$75 each for gold ones.

Moved by Mr. Morgenthau, seconded by Mr. Bruner and carried that not more than six medals of each class be distributed during any one year.

Mr. Scott was authorized to have struck twenty medals in silver and

twenty in bronze, and to have suitable cases made for each one.

A communication was read from Mr. Toppan, offering two medals, one of silver and one of bronze for a competitive exhibition of the postage stamps of Siam. Mr. Toppan's offer was accepted with thanks.

Mr. Holland offered, through Mr. Luff, two medals, one of silver and one of bronze, for a competitive exhibition of the telegraph stamps of the

United States; accepted with thanks.

Two medals, one of silver and one of bronze, were offered by Mr. Luff

for a competive exhibition of the postage stamps of Porto Rico, and Mr. Rich offered two medals, one of silver and one of bronze for a competitive exhibition of the stamps of Straits Settlements. These offers were also accepted with thanks.

The Scott Stamp & Coin Co. made an offer of three medals, one of gold, one of silver and one of bronze, for a competitive exhibition of United States postage. official dues, newspaper and revenue stamps, with the proviso that no gold medal be awarded unless there be at least six entries. The offer was accepted with thanks

The Collectors Club will, also, award two medals, one of silver and one of bronze, for a competitive exhibition of United States proofs and essays.

The dates of the proposed exhibitions have been set as follows:

December 14, 1903. Siam; January 11, 1904, U. S. Telegraph; February 8, 1904, Porto Rico; March 14, 1904, U. S. postage, official, dues, newspapers and revenues; April 11, 1904, Straits Settlements; May 9, 1904. U. S. proofs and essays. Messrs. Andreini, Morgenthau and Perrin were appointed judges for the December exhibition.

Mr. Scott reported that the club has acquired the share of stock formerly

held by Mr. O H. Williams.

An appropriation of \$100 was voted to the Amusement Committee for a vaudeville entertainment and collation, to be held at the club house during the month of December

The application of Mr B. L. Drew, having been posted the required length of time, was balloted upon, and he was declared to have been unanimously elected a member of the club.

The following application was received and posted on the bulletin board:

Benno Loewy, New York.

Proposed by J. W. Scott, seconded by P. F. Bruner.

Adjourned at 11 P. M.

ALBERT PERRIN, Secretary.

Birmingham Philatelic Society.

Oct 20.—Display.—New South Wales and Mauritius —Mr. W. B. Avery.
The following were unanimously elected members—Lieu Ed G.
Chichester, Messrs. C. Nissen, Eugene Egly, I. J. Bernstein and Leon de
Raaij.

Messrs. T. W. Peck, F. C. Henderson and A. H. Stamford were thanked for donations to the Permanent Collection, and during the evening Mr W. A. Callaghan presented a valuable collection of the stamps of Great Britain and received a special vote of thanks for the same. The collection given included very fine copies of £5, five £1 (cross, 3 orbs, 3 crowns, I. R official green, and King's head), 2sh. brown, all the octagonals, R. H. and Admiralty official complete, P. O. telegraphs almost complete and many other scarce mint or finely used stamps

Mr. W. B Averythen gave a display of his superb and unique collections of N. S. W. and Mauritius. In N. S. W. reconstructed sheets were shown of every type and shade of Sydney View and Laureated besides a marvelous

accumulation of other rarities. In Mauritius the unused 1d and 2d Post Office and the other early issues, some in reconstructed sheets excited the admiration of the large and appreciative meeting.

Oct. 29. - Paper - Portugal and Colonies - Mr. G Johnson

Messrs W. Armistead, Wiseman Clarke, E. Dodds, O. Crane and Miss

F. E Smith were unanimously elected members.

Vote of thanks were ordered to be entered on the minutes to the following donors to the Society's Permanent Collection.—Messrs G. W. Martin (valuable lot of Colonials and Foreign), W. B. Avery (mint pair of Gt. Britan 1d black V. R.), C. McNaughtan (early Barbados etc.), P. Fabri, H. C. Cronier, J. Winch, C. A. Stephenson, R. Hollick, A. A. Green.

Messrs W. Morley, O. K. Trechimauss and Rev. G. H. Raynor were

thanked for contributions to the Library.

Mr G. Johnson then read his paper on the stamps of Portugal and Colonies

Corrections to Annual Report :-

I. In the list of donors to the Permanent Collection for 1902-3 Mr. D. Davis' name should be 2nd in order of value given.

2. Page 19, line 16, should read "count as No. 6-12".

3. Want list of Germany-Samoa should be "all except 1, 2, 9, 10".

Staten Island Philatelic Society.

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Staten Island Philatelic Society held at Ohliger's Hotel, Stapleton, S. I., Nov. 17, 1903.

Members present: President Oscar Dejonge, Messrs. Henry Clotz, A. R. Richter, Adolpe Lienhardt and R. S. Lehman. Mr. Koenig as visitor.

The meeting was called to order at 8.45 P. M.

Mr. Richter reported that the outing in August was a success in spite of

the inclument weather.

An invitation of the International Philatelic Exhibition at Berlin, in September, 1904, asking the Society to take part was received, read and placed on record.

The President hopes that any individual member who may be in a

position to do so, will send an exhibition.

Mr. Clotz moved that the January and March 1904 meetings be held in Manhattan in the Collectors Club's rooms. Carried.

Exhibition of stamps followed.

Adjournment at 9.55 P. M.

ROBERT S. LELMAN, Secretary, 375 3rd Ave., New York City

